

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

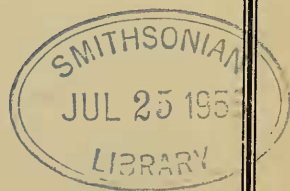
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 12. Part 17. Pp. 315—336

OPINION 394

Addition to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* of the name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, and to the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* of the name *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda)



LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Trust for
Zoological Nomenclature
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7
1956

Price Twelve Shillings and Sixpence

(All rights reserved)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 394

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*)

President : Professor James Chester Bradley (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953)

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*) (27th July 1948)

B. The Members of the Commission

(*Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology*)

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947)

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948)

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948) (*Secretary*)

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948)

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948)

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950)

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950)

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950)

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950)

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953) (*Vice-President*)

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (12th August 1953)

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953) (*President*)

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Mezőgazdasági Múzeum, Budapest, Hungary*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (12th August 1953)

OPINION 394

ADDITION TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC
NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF THE NAME "POR-
TUNUS" WEBER, 1795, AND TO THE "OFFICIAL
INDEX OF REJECTED AND INVALID GENERIC
NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF THE NAME
"PORTUNUS" FABRICIUS, 1798
(CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER
DECAPODA)

RULING :—(1) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Nos. 986 and 987 respectively :—

- (a) *Portunus* Weber, 1795 (gender : masculine) (type species, by selection by Rathbun (1926) : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (b) *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833 (gender : masculine) (type species, by monotypy : *Portunus macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833).

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Nos. severally specified below :—

- (a) *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798 (a junior homonym, and a junior objective synonym, of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) (Name No. 410) ;
- (b) *Lupa* Leach, 1814 (a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) (Name No. 411) ;

- (c) *Lupa* De Haan, [1833] (a junior homonym of *Lupa* Leach, 1814) (Name No. 412) ;
- (d) *Lima* Leach, 1814 (an Invalid Original Spelling for *Lupa* Leach, 1814 ; also a junior homonym of *Lima* Bruguière, [1797] (Name No. 413) ;
- (e) *Neptunus* De Haan, [1833] (a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) (Name No. 414).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Nos. 690 and 691 respectively :—

- (a) *pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer pelagicus* (specific name of type species of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;
- (b) *tuberculatus* Roux (P.), 1828, as published in the combination *Portunus tuberculatus*.

(4) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 69 :—

PORTUNIDAE (correction by Samouelle (1819) of PORTUNIDIA) Rafinesque, 1815 (type genus : *Portunus* Weber, 1795).

(5) The under-mentioned family-group names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Nos. 53 and 54 respectively :—

- (a) PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815 (type genus : *Portunus* Weber, 1795) (an Invalid Original Spelling for PORTUNIDAE, to which form this name was corrected by Samouelle, 1819) ;
- (b) LUPINAE Dana, 1851 (type genus : *Lupa* Leach, 1814) (a junior objective synonym of PORTUNIDAE (correction of PORTUNIDIA) Rafinesque, 1815, the

respective type genera of these nominal family-group taxa having the same nominal species as type species).

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 2nd February 1952, Dr. L. B. Holthuis (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) submitted to the Commission the following application designed to secure a Ruling which would bring to a close the long-standing disagreement among specialists regarding the generic names *Portunus* Weber, 1795, and *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) :—

Proposed addition of the generic names “Portunus” Weber, 1795, and “Macropipus” Prestandrea, 1833 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) to the “Official List of Generic Names in Zoology”

By L. B. HOLTHUIS

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

The problem concerning the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, one of the most annoying questions in the nomenclature of the Decapoda Brachyura, is similar in many respects to the problems offered by the names of the Crustacean genera *Alpheus* Fabricius, *Crangon* Fabricius, and *Carcinus* Leach (see 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 69, 99).¹ In the present case too, a commonly used generic name was discovered around 1900 to be incorrectly employed for the genus to which it was currently applied. As in the above-mentioned cases, it was Miss Mary J. Rathbun who made this discovery and who accordingly changed the name of the genus in question by using the name that she thought to be nomenclatorially correct. As at the time when Miss Rathbun published her discoveries, no official suspension of the International Rules was possible, her action was the only proper way to deal with this problem. Practically all American carcinologists subsequently adopted Miss Rathbun's solution, while most European authors resented her action and did not accept the proposed changes. This difference in attitude between the American and European authors towards the present problem continues to this day, and the confusion caused thereby in carcinological literature has attained a stage that is

¹ For the decision of the International Commission in the case here referred to see *Opinion 334* (1955, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : 1—44).

intolerable and that should be ended at all costs. This is the reason why the present proposal is submitted to the International Commission for consideration and decision.

2. The original references to the generic names dealt with in the present proposal are the following :

Portunus Weber, 1795, *Nomencl. entomol.* : 93 (type species, by selection by Rathbun, 1926 (*Bull. U.S. nat. Mus.* **138** : 75) : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 626). Gender : masculine.

Portunus Fabricius, 1798, *Suppl. Ent. syst.* : 325, 363 (type species, by selection by Latreille, 1810 (*Consider. gén. Crust. Arachn. Ins.* 422) : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 626). Gender : masculine.

Lupa Leach, 1814, in Brewster's *Edinb. Encycl.* **7** : 390 (type species, by monotypy : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 626). Gender : feminine.

Macropipus Prestandrea, 1833, *Effem. sci. lett. Sicilia* **6** : 5 (type species, by monotypy : *Portunus macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833, *Effem. sci. lett. Sicilia* **6** : 4 (= *Portunus tuberculatus* P. Roux, 1828, *Crust. Médit.* : pl. 32 figs. 1—5). Gender : masculine.

Neptunus De Haan, [1833], Siebold's *Fauna japon.*, *Crust.* (1) : 3, 7 (type species, by selection by Miers, 1886 (*Rep. Voy. Challenger*, *Zool.* **17** : 172) : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 626). Gender : masculine.

Liocarcinus Stimpson, 1870, *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.* **2** : 146 (type species, by monotypy) : *Portunus holsatus* Fabricius, 1798, *Suppl. Ent. syst.* : 366). Gender : masculine.

3. Before starting the discussion of the question to which genus the generic name *Portunus* should be applied, it seems desirable to ascertain whether Weber, 1795, or Fabricius, 1798, should be cited as its author. Generally, the generic name is given as *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798, and under the unrevised *Règles* this practice was entirely correct. The generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, under the unrevised *Règles* was invalid, since Weber in his 1795 publication under the name *Portunus* only mentioned the trivial names of a number of species, without giving a definition or a description of the genus and without designating or indicating a type species. During the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology held in Paris in 1948, however, it was decided that a generic name published before 1st January, 1931, should be available as from the date of its original publication not only when it was then accompanied by a definition or description or when a type species was designated or indicated, but also when the name, on being first published, was accompanied by no verbal definition or description, the only indication given being that provided by the citation under the generic name concerned of the names of one or more

previously published nominal species (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 80). On account of this decision *Portunus* Weber, 1795, became a valid generic name, while the name *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798, became invalid, being a junior homonym of Weber's *Portunus*. Since both *Portunus* Weber and *Portunus* Fabricius have the same type species, they are not only homonyms, but also objective synonyms of one another. For the present purposes, it is relatively immaterial which of these two names should be accepted in preference to the other.

4. The crucial point of the question dealt with in the present proposal is the fact that most American authors adopt a different species as the type species of the genus *Portunus* from that accepted by most European authors. For convenience's sake these two viewpoints, the American and the European respectively, are tabulated below, the two genera in question being indicated as "A" and "B".

	American viewpoint	European viewpoint
Genus "A"	<i>Portunus</i> Weber, 1795, type species : <i>Cancer pelagicus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	<i>Neptunus</i> De Haan, [1883], type species : <i>Cancer pelagicus</i> Linnaeus, 1758
Genus "B"	<i>Liocarcinus</i> Stimpson, 1870, type species : <i>Portunus holsatus</i> Fabricius, 1798	<i>Portunus</i> Fabricius, 1798, type species : <i>Cancer puber</i> Linnaeus, 1758

5. Both under the revised and under the unrevised *Règles* the European view point is definitely incorrect. The only species ever selected as the type species of the genus *Portunus* Weber, is *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus. For *Portunus* Fabricius more than one species has been cited as the type species, but here too the first validly selected type species is *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, which was so selected by Latreille (1810). As far as I can ascertain, the first type selection for *Portunus* Fabricius in the sense adopted by European authors is that by H. Milne Edwards, 1837 (*Cuvier's Règne anim.* (Ed. 4) (Disciples' Ed.) 18 : pl. 10, fig. 2), who cited *Cancer puber* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species of *Portunus* Fabricius. Several European authors have tried to prove that Latreille's (1810) type selections are invalid, but this question has now been definitely settled by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, who in its *Opinion* 11 (1910, *Smithson. Publ.* 1938 : 17—18, and 1945, *Opin. Decl. Int. Comm. Zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 179—190) and in the amplification of that *Opinion*, published as *Opinion* 136 in 1939 (*ibid.* 2 : 13—20) expressly stated that Latreille's (1810) type selections should be accepted. The European viewpoint thus is definitely contrary to the *Règles* and it can be accepted only under suspension of the *Règles*.

6. The next question is whether or not a suspension of the *Règles* is justified in the present case, or in other words whether or not the strict application of the *Règles* will cause such serious confusion that it should be prevented by a suspension of those *Règles*. This question is here first considered for the genera A and B (see above table) separately.

7. Genus "A". This genus consists of a considerable number of species of, often large, swimming crabs, which inhabit the tropical and sub-tropical seas of the world and in various regions serve for food (East Africa, India, Indonesia, Australia, Japan, Hawaii). In American literature at present the name *Portunus* has been universally adopted for this genus, e.g. in M. J. Rathbun's (1930, *Bull. U.S. nat. Mus.* 152) important monograph of the Cancroid crabs of America. In West Africa the genus is rather rare and the references in West African literature are consequently few. Rathbun (1900, *Proc. U.S. nat. Mus.* 22 : 289) in her list of the Decapoda of West Africa used the generic name *Portunus* for it, but European authors like Balss (1921, *Mechaelsen's Beitr. Kenntn. Meeresf. Westaf.* 3 (2)), who later revised the West African Decapods, employed the name *Neptunus* De Haan. The latter name has been given to the genus by the majority of the authors writing on indo-westpacific crabs; the Australian and Hawaiian authors, however, use the name *Portunus*, just as does the Siamese author Suvatti in his check list of the fauna of Thailand, and Miss Rathbun in her papers on indo-westpacific crabs. The Chinese author Shen (1932, *Zool. sin.* (A) 9 (1)) in his monograph of the crabs of North China used the generic name *Portunus* for the present genus, but in later papers he employed the name *Neptunus*. The name *Neptunus* also is generally employed for the species of this genus living in the Mediterranean. Barnard (1950, *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.* 38 : 152) in his monograph of the South African Decapoda employs the name *Lupa* Leach for the present genus.

8. Summarizing, we see that for the genus "A" the name *Portunus* has been practically universally adopted in the literature concerning American, Hawaiian and Australian crabs, while in the carcinological literature concerning the rest of the indo-westpacific region it is the name *Neptunus* that is generally employed. Also in the scanty literature concerning the European and West African species of the genus, the name *Neptunus* is usually adopted.

9. A suspension of the *Règles* which would make it possible to use the generic name *Portunus* for genus "B", as is advocated by most European authors, would result in an enormous confusion as regards the name for genus "A". The valid name for genus "A" in that case would be *Lupa* Leach, 1814, since this name is an older objective synonym of *Neptunus* De Haan, [1833]. If the *Règles* were to be suspended

in the foregoing sense, the name for genus "A" would have to be changed not only in the American literature, but also in the indo-westpacific literature. A strict application of the *Règles*, however, would leave unchanged the name at present used for the present genus in American (and Australian and Hawaiian) literature. In my opinion a strict application of the *Règles* is greatly to be preferred to a suspension in the case of genus "A".

10. Genus "B". About ten species of this genus are known, all of them inhabiting European seas ; the genus is known from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, and from West Africa. One of the species has been reported several times from the indo-westpacific area (Red Sea, Australia, New Zealand, Japan). The animals are rather small compared to those of genus "A" and are of very little economic importance, though some are eaten.

11. When discussing the present question Miss Rathbun (1897, *Proc. biol. Soc. Wash.* 11 : 155) assumed that the correct name for genus "B" was *Liocarcinus* Stimpson, 1870, and not *Portunus* Fabricius. At that time the latter name was generally used for it, and at present it still is commonly adopted by most authors. The name *Liocarcinus* has almost exclusively been used by American authors, but since the genus does not occur in American waters, Stimpson's generic name is seldom found in the literature. Though the species of this genus are rather few in number and are of very little economic importance, while furthermore they are practically never used as laboratory animals, they are very abundant along the larger part of the European coasts and therefore are dealt with in numerous popular books and textbooks. Consequently a strict application of the *Règles* in the case of genus "B" would cause a great confusion, which could be prevented by suspension of these *Règles*.

12. It is clear that whatever decision is taken in the present question, the change of several well-known names is necessary before final uniformity is attained. A suspension of the *Règles* to retain the name *Portunus* for the genus "B" would cause the change of the generally adopted name for genus "A" in American literature, while it would not prevent the change of the currently employed name for that genus in the larger part of the indo-westpacific literature. Even a double suspension of the *Règles* (one to make *Portunus* the valid name for genus "B" and one to let *Neptunus* be the valid name for genus "A") would still necessitate a change of name for genus "A" in American, Australian and Hawaiian literature.

13. As a Dutch carcinologist, I should be opposed to the name *Portunus*, which has always been employed for the common swimming

crabs of the shores of my country, being changed to a name which is quite unfamiliar to me, and I am certain that most other European carcinologists would feel the same way. But when we look at the question as a whole, the reasons for retaining the name *Portunus* for genus "B" become much less evident. First, because it is not only genus "B" which is involved in this question, but also genus "A", the nomenclature of which would be more greatly upset by the suspension of the *Règles* than by the strict application of them. Second, the number of species of genus "A" is much larger than that of genus "B" (the latter contains about 10 species in all, while of the former not less than 24 species have been reported from American waters alone). Third, the nomenclature of the American crabs has been more or less stabilized by the careful work of Miss Rathbun, and a change in it is the more undesirable, in that this nomenclature (which strictly adheres to the *Règles*) is employed in Miss Rathbun's splendid monographs of the American crabs, which are the standard works consulted by anyone interested in these animals. The nomenclature of the European crabs on the contrary, is still very unsettled, probably because of lack of interest in nomenclatorial problems by European carcinologists. Furthermore, there exists for the European crabs at the present time no monograph comparable to Miss Rathbun's works.

14. Considering all sides of the present question, I can see no sufficient reason to ask for a suspension of the *Règles*. The consistent application of the *Règles* in this case seems to be the safest way out of the muddle in which we find ourselves at the present time. I realize that there will be considerable opposition to this solution, especially from European carcinologists, but they should remember that the intolerable situation which exists at present is mainly due to us European carcinologists ourselves. Had the European workers immediately adopted Miss Rathbun's solution, no trouble and confusion would have existed at this moment. Had they tried to get a suspension of the *Règles* in the early times, when the American point of view had not yet become so deeply rooted, their viewpoint might have been legalized. But no action whatever was undertaken and the incorrect nomenclature was stubbornly used. Palmer, 1927 (*J. mar. biol. Ass. U.K.* (n. ser.) 14 : 881), it is true, pointed out the desirability of having the *Règles* suspended for the generic name *Portunus*, but no proposal to that end was, I am informed, ever received by the International Commission.

15. The last point which I want to discuss here is, what generic name should be given to genus "B", when the name *Portunus* is not available for it. Miss Rathbun (1897, *Proc. biol. Soc. Wash.* 11 : 155) suggested the generic name *Liocarcinus* Stimpson, 1870. This name was given by Stimpson to a certain group of crabs that at present are considered to belong in genus "B". A recent examination of a paper by Prestandrea (1833, *Effem. sci. lett. Sicilia* 6 : 3—14) showed me that this

author proposed a new generic name *Macropipus* for a species of swimming crab to which in the same paper he gave the names *Portunus macropipus* and *Macropipus citrinus*. This species without any doubt is identical with *Portunus tuberculatus* P. Roux, a crab belonging in genus "B". Since Prestandrea's generic name *Macropipus* is much older than the name *Liocarcinus* Stimpson, it has priority. The name *Liocarcinus*, as pointed out above, has seldom been used for the genus concerned, and therefore its replacement by the name *Macropipus* will cause no difficulties.

16. The concrete proposal which I accordingly submit is that the International Commission should :—

(1) place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the under-mentioned generic names :—

- (a) the name *Portunus* Weber, 1795 (gender : masculine) (type species, by selection by Rathbun (1926) : *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (b) the name *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833 (gender : masculine) (type species, by monotypy : *Portunus macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833) ;

(2) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* the under-mentioned generic names :—

- (a) the name *Portunus* Fabricius, 1798 (a junior homonym, and objective synonym, of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;
- (b) the name *Lupa* Leach, 1814 (a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;
- (c) the name *Neptunus* De Haan, [1833] (a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;

(3) place on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* the under-mentioned valid trivial names :—

- (a) the name *pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer pelagicus* (trivial name of type species of *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;
- (b) the name *tuberculatus* P. Roux, 1828, as published in the combination *Portunus tuberculatus*.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Dr. Holthuis's application the question of the addition of the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 642.

3. Support for the present application received prior to its publication in the " Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature " from Dr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr. (United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.) : On 19th September 1952 Dr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr. (*United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*) addressed a letter to the Commission in support of the present application. Dr. Chace's letter, which was published on 30th December 1952 (Chace, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 127) concurrently with Dr. Holthuis's application, was as follows :—

Dr. Holthuis has informed me that you would like to have my comments on his proposal to the International Commission on the use of the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795. I am in complete agreement with this proposal as phrased by Dr. Holthuis, and I am fairly certain that all other American crab specialists would react similarly. The decision recommended in this proposal is the one which has been accepted by all American workers in recent years as far as I am aware.

4. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 21st September 1952 and was published on 30th December of the same year in Double-Part 4/5 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Holthuis, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 122—127).

5. Comments on the present application received after publication : Two communications in regard to the present application were received subsequent to its publication in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. In each case the specialist concerned supported the action proposed by Dr. Holthuis. No objection to his proposals was received from any source.

6. Support received from Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey (Enfermedades de la Infancia, Barcelona, Spain) : On 25th February 1953

Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey (*Enfermedades de la Infancia, Barcelona*) addressed a letter to the Commission commenting upon, and supporting, the present and certain other applications then recently published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. The following is an extract of the relevant portion of Dr. Zariquiey's letter :—

He recibido las Commission's References . . . Z.N.(S.) 642 . . . propuestas por el Dr. L. B. Holthuis, estando en todo conforme con las proposiciones del citado Doctor.

En particular me interesa hacer contar mi adhesion a la Z.N.(S.) 642, pues es un asunto que hace anos me preocupaba, pues si bien com carcinologo mediterraneo me duele dejar de usar el nombre de *Portunus*, familiar para nosotros por la gran frecuencia y numero con que capturamos sus especies y substituirlo por otro que de momento nada nos dice, comprendo las razones espuestas por el Dr. Holthuis y creo todos debemos ayudar con la mejor voluntad a resolver definitivamente estas cueationes.

7. Support received from Dr. T. Monod (Institut Français D'Afrique Noire, Dakar, West Africa) : On 19th March 1953, Dr. Th. Monod (*Institut Français d'Afrique Noire, Dakar*) addressed the following letter to the Commission in support of the present application :—

A propos du problème *Portunus-Neptunus* (Commission's ref : Z.N.(S.) 642), j'ai l'honneur de vous signaler que je suis d'accord avec la proposition du Dr. Holthuis préconisant dans ce cas la stricte application des *Règles*.

Toutefois il n'est pas douteux que pour beaucoup d'entre nous et, en particulier pour les carcinologistes européens, la mesure envisagée devra bouleverser des habitudes très solides. Je rappelle que le genre "*Portunus*" (sensu auct. plur.) est extrêmement répandu sur les côtes d'Europe et que, si ses espèces ne sont peut-être que rarement "used as laboratory animals" (p. 125), les "étrilles" (*P. puber*) sont souvent avec le *Carcinus maenas* et le *Cancer pagurus* les premiers Brachyures qu'apprennent à connaître les étudiants.

Tout en acceptant l'application des *Règles* je me demande si la Commission ne pourrait envisager de préconiser l'adoption temporaire, et qui faciliterait à n'en pas douter dans une large mesure le passage de l'ancien système au nouveau, des graphies suivantes :

Portunus [*Neptunus*] *pelagicus*, etc.
Macropipus [*Portunus*] *puber*, etc.

Les crochets sont destinés à bien marquer qu'il ne s'agit pas de sous-genres, pour lesquels on eût utilisé des *parenthèses*. Pour plus de sûreté on pourrait même songer à des *guillemets* ou à un préfixe *ex* :

Portunus ["*Neptunus*"] spp.

Macropipus ["*Portunus*"] spp.

ou :

Portunus [ex—*Neptunus*] spp.

Portunus [ex *Neptunus*] spp.

Macropipus [ex—*Portunus*] spp.

Macropipus [ex—*Portunus*] spp.

De nombreuses combinaisons graphiques demeurent possibles. Je serais heureux que la Commission veuille bien mettre à l'étude l'éventualité d'une recommandation de cet ordre.

III.—THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

8. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 : On 5th April 1954, a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)60) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the names *Portunus* Weber, 1795, and *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833, as specified in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 16 on page 127 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the Points numbered as above in paragraph 16 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

9. The Prescribed Voting Period for Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 5th July 1954.

10. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following nineteen (19) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Bonnet ; Hering ; Vokes ; Esaki ; Riley ; Dymond ; Boschma ; Lemche ; do Amaral ; Hankó ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Hemming ; Pearson² ; Cabrera ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Stoll ; Jaczewski ; Mertens ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

11. Declaration of Result of Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 : On 6th July 1954, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 10 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

12. Family-Group-Name Problems : On 8th October 1954, Mr. Francis Hemming, as Secretary, submitted to the Commission the following paper in which he placed before it proposals for the settlement of the family-group-name aspects of the present case,

² Commissioner Pearson exercised in this case the right conferred by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, under which a Commissioner may, if he so desires, signify his willingness to support the view, or the majority view, of the other members of the Commission (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 50—51).

together with proposals on certain other matters connected with the present case which had come to light since the submission to the Commission of Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 in April of that year :—

**The family-group name based upon the generic name
“ Portunus ” Weber, 1795 (Class Crustacea,
Order Decapoda)**

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.,

Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

In the earlier part of this year, by its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 the Commission approved the proposals relating to the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, submitted to it by Dr. L. B. Holthuis (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 122—127). Dr. Holthuis's application was prepared before the meeting of the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, and therefore before the establishment of the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*. In order that this aspect of the *Portunus* problem may be dealt with in the forthcoming *Opinion* on this case, as is required by the General Directive relating to the placing of family-group names on the foregoing *Official List* issued to the Commission by the Copenhagen Congress, I recently asked Dr. Holthuis to furnish me with the necessary particulars. This Dr. Holthuis has kindly done in a letter dated 27th September 1954, which is reproduced as an Annexe to the present paper.

2. Dr. Holthuis's letter brings to light a further point which calls for action by the Commission under the General Directive regarding the placing of names on the *Official List of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* issued to the Commission by the Thirteenth International Commission of Zoology, Paris, 1948. This is in relation to the name *Lupa* Leach, 1814 (*in* Brewster's *Edinburgh Ency.* 7(2) : 390), which, as Dr. Holthuis points out, is a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795 (a name placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the vote taken on the Voting Paper referred to in paragraph 1 above), each of the nominal genera so named having *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758 as type species. As already proposed, the name *Lupa* Leach, 1814, must therefore now be placed on the *Official Index* in accordance with the General Directive issued by the Paris Congress. In this connection I have been led to look further into this matter and this investigation has brought to light two additional points which also need to be dealt with under the General Directive referred to above. These points are :—(1) The name *Lupa* Leach, 1814, was published with two original spellings, the second being

Lima, a spelling which appeared on page 429 in Leach's article. As an Invalid Original Spelling, the name *Lima* Leach, 1814, possesses no status in nomenclature and does not preoccupy any later use of the same name (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 45, Decision 73(1)). Quite apart from the foregoing considerations, the name *Lima* Leach, 1814, would however have been invalid as a junior homonym of *Lima* Bruguière, [1797] (*Ency. méth.*, Tabl. Vers : pl. 206). (2) In addition to its use (as shown above) by Leach in 1814, the word *Lupa* was published as a name for a different genus in the Class Crustacea by de Haan in 1833 (*in* Siebold, *Fauna japon.*, Crust. (1) : 11). We see, therefore, that in addition to the name *Lupa* Leach, 1814, the names *Lima* Leach, 1814, and *Lupa* de Haan, [1833], require now, under the Paris Directive to be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

3. I recommend (a) that in accordance with the General Directive issued by the Paris Congress (paragraph 2 above) the action specified in (1) below be taken by the Commission and (b) that, in accordance with the General Directive issued by the Copenhagen Congress (paragraph 1 above) the action specified in (2) and (3) below be taken by the Commission :—

(1) To be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—

(a) *Lupa* Leach, 1814 (a junior objective synonym of *Portunus* Weber, 1795, a name placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60) ;

(b) *Lupa* de Haan, [1833] (a junior homonym of *Lupa* Leach, 1814) ;

(c) *Lima* Leach, 1814 (an Invalid Original Spelling for *Lupa* Leach, 1814 ; invalid also because a junior homonym of *Lima* Bruguière, [1797]) ;

(2) To be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—

PORTUNIDAE (correction by Samouelle (1819) of PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815 (type genus : *Portunus* Weber, 1795) ;

(3) To be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—

(a) PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815 (type genus : *Portunus* Weber, 1795) (an Invalid Original Spelling for the family name PORTUNIDAE, to which form this name was corrected by Samouelle (1819)) ;

- (b) LUPINAE Dana, 1851 (type genus : *Lupa* Leach, 1814) (a junior objective synonym of PORTUNIDAE (correction of PORTUNIDIA) Rafinesque, 1815, the respective type genera of these nominal family-group taxa having the same nominal species as type species).

ANNEXE

**Letter dated 27th September 1954 to the Secretary to the Commission
from D. L. B. Holthuis (Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke
Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands)**

Family names based on "Portunus"

1. If the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795, is placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, the following family names should be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :

PORTUNIDAE (emend. by Samouelle (1819, *Entomologist's useful Compendium* : 83) of PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse Nature* : 97 (type genus : *Portunus* Weber, 1795, a genus having a name which has been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*).

2. At the same time should be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* :

LUPINAE Dana, 1851, *Amer. J. Sci.* (2) 12 : 129 (type genus : *Lupa* Leach, 1814) (invalid because the type genus of the family so named has, as its type species *Cancer pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758, which is also the type species of *Portunus* Weber, 1795 (a name placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*) which is the type genus of the family PORTUNIDAE Rafinesque) ;

PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse Nature* : 97 (Invalid Original Spelling of PORTUNIDAE).

3. The family PORTUNIDAE is recognised by all modern carcinologists.

13. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(54)25 : On 8th October 1954 a Voting Paper (V.P.(O.M.)(54)25) was issued in which each

Member of the Commission was invited (1) to state whether he agreed "that, in conformity with the General Directive relating to the recording on the various *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* of decisions in regard to particular names and particular books taken by the Commission prior to 1948, issued to the International Commission by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, and with the General Directive supplementary thereto issued to the Commission by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the entries relating to the family name PORTUNIDAE and associated names specified in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 3 in the paper bearing the reference number Z.N.(S.) 642 submitted by the Secretary simultaneously with the present Voting Paper [i.e. in the Points numbered as above on the paper reproduced in paragraph 12 of the present *Opinion*], should be made in the *Official List* and in the *Official Index* as there proposed", and (2), if he did not so agree as regards any given item, to indicate the item concerned.

14. The Prescribed Voting Period for Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)

(54)25 : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the One-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 8th November 1954.

15. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)

(54)25 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(54)25 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following eighteen (18) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)*³ :

Holthuis ; Riley ; Boschma ; Lemche ; Stoll ; Vokes ;
 Hering ; Mertens ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Bradley (J.C.) ;
 Bonnet ; Jaczewski ; Esaki ; Hemming ; do Amaral ;
 Cabrera ; Dymond ; Hankó.

³ Commissioner Pearson, who participated in the first vote on the present case retired from the membership of the Commission on 8th October 1954, and therefore did not vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(54)25.

(b) *Negative Votes* :

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned* :

None.

16. Declaration of Result of Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.) (54)25 : On 9th November 1954, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(54)25, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 15 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

17. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" : On 25th February 1956, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposals approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)60 as supplemented by its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(54)25.

18. Original References : The following are the original references for the generic and specific names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

- Lima* Leach, 1814, in Brewster's *Edinburgh Ency.* 7 : 429
Lupa Leach, 1814, in Brewster's *Edinburgh Ency.* 7 : 390
Lupa De Haan, [1833], in Siebold, *Faun. japon.*, Crust. (1) : 11
Macropipus Prestandrea, 1833, *Effem. sci. lett. Sicilia* 6 : 5
Neptunus De Haan, [1838], in Siebold, *Faun. japon.*, Crust. (1) : 3, 7
pelagicus, *Cancer*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 626
Portunus Weber, 1795, *Nomencl. ent. secundum Syst. Fabric.* : 93
Portunus Fabricius, 1793, *Suppl. Ent. syst.* : 325, 363
tuberculatus, *Portunus*, Roux (P.), 1828, *Crust. Médit.* : pl. 32, figs. 1—5

19. The following is the reference for the type-selection for the genus *Portunus* Weber, 1795, specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—Rathbun, 1926, *Bull. U.S. nat. Mus.* **138** : 75.

20. The following are the original references for the family-group names placed on the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of nominal taxa of the family-group by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

LUPINAE Dana, 1851, *Amer. J. Sci.* (2) **12** : 129

PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1915, *Analyse Nature* : 97

21. The following is the reference for the correction to PORTUNIDAE of the family-group name PORTUNIDIA Rafinesque, 1815, specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—Samouelle, 1819, *Entomologists' useful Compendium* : 83.

22. At the time of the submission of the present application the name applicable to the second portion of a binomen was "trivial name". This was altered to "specific name" by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, which at the same time made corresponding changes in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of this category. These changes in terminology have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

23. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

24. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Ninety-Four (394) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twenty-Fifth day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Six.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING